

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO
BROADCAST OF MAY 16-17, 1959 (RECORDED MAY 14, 1959)

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

I want to discuss briefly today the subject of water, that priceless resource without which civilization, or for that matter life itself, cannot flourish. In 1955 the United States' fresh water requirements were 221 billion gallons daily; by 1980, the nation's needs will be almost tripled to 597 billion gallons each day. Population increases throughout the world make the problem of getting adequate fresh water an international problem.

In the Capitol with me today /to discuss this most vital problem/ is Dr. A. L. Miller, Director of the Office of Saline Water in the Department of the Interior. Dr. Miller is attacking the impending water shortage /by developing conversion plants which will take salt water and convert it to fresh/ by economical means. Will you tell us how far along you people are, Dr. Miller?

DR. MILLER: (Possible points to mention)

1. More salt water in world than fresh.
2. Several type conversion plants now, but uneconomical.
3. We are making real progress, have received \$10 million appropriations for five giant demonstration plants which should produce _____ gallons daily.
4. These plants to be located five different locations.

SENATOR THURMOND: Beaufort and Charleston have both expressed interest in having the Atlantic Coast demonstration plant located

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in their communities. Without putting you on the spot, what are the chances?

DR. MILLER: 1. _____ cities all up and down Atlantic Seaboard are interested.

2. *One of my engineers*
~~Mr. Cadawalter~~ recently returned from a trip down South, but still has much work to do in compiling engineering and other information.

3. Was impressed with treatment received in S. C.

SENATOR THURMOND: When will decision be made, Dr. Miller, and once made, when will the community selected be able to expect some benefits?

DR. MILLER: 1. Expect decision by _____.

2. Community can expect within _____ afterwards to be receiving _____ gallons daily from ocean water. If demonstrations and tests prove successful, other communities in this nation and around the world may begin building plants of their own, and areas now underdeveloped because of fresh water shortages -- may flourish.

SENATOR THURMOND: Thank you for this interesting information, Dr. Miller. Fresh water from ocean water! The world will forever be grateful to you and your associates if your efforts to make this dream come true are successful.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.